

THE SEMI-CENTENNIAL JUBILEE OF MCGILL MEDICAL FACULTY.

The oldest medical school in Canada, the tenth oldest in America, celebrated the opening of its fiftieth session on the 4th and 5th of last month. The Medical Faculty of McGill College is really older than fifty years, for it lost three sessions during rebellion times, and it is owing to this intermission that 1882-83 is its fiftieth session.

The proceedings commenced with an introductory lecture by the recently appointed Dean, Dr. R. P. Howard, in the theatre of the Redpath Museum, on the evening of the 4th October. The seats were filled by students and graduates of the University, as well as by many invited guests. The subject of the address was a history of the founders of the school, with a sketch of the life of the late Dean, Dr. George Campbell. At the conclusion of the lecture, all adjourned to the Museum, where a *conversazione* was held, an entertainment made pleasant and interesting from the number of graduates who had come from their homes to take part in the rejoicing over the successful career of their College. Upwards of six hundred people attended the reception, and it was regarded as one of the most successful entertainments of the kind ever held in Montreal. The following day was spent by those who had come from a distance, in visiting old haunts and hunting up old friends. The wards of the General Hospital were the chief attraction. The College classrooms and the dissecting-room, however, received their share of attention. Old boarding-houses and landladies were not forgotten.

The great event of the Jubilee was the dinner. Many more graduates arrived just in time for it. On the evening of the 5th there sat down some two hundred and twelve guests, in the magnificent dining hall of the Windsor Hotel. Of these about one hundred and ninety were medical graduates of McGill. The seats were arranged in such a way that men of the same class sat near one another. Many an antique joke was unearthed, many an old story retold.

The senior classes were well represented. Dr. Workman represented '35. His only sur-

living class-mate, Dr. Hart, sent his congratulations to the Dean and Faculty, with regrets that advancing age and domestic affliction prevented his leaving his home in Louisiana to join in the celebration. No '42 or '46 men were present. These two classes have gone where all college classes go. '43 sent up one graduate. '47, '48 and '50 turned out in force.

Among the guests seated at the principal table were: Dr. Chadwick, representing Harvard; President Buckham, of the University of Vermont; Dr. Covernton, of Trinity College, Toronto; Dr. Workman, representing the Toronto School of Medicine; Hon. D. A. Smith, Mr. Hugh McLennan, Dr. d'Orsonnens and Dr. Rottot, representing the French Schools, and Mr. David Morrice, the founder of the Morrice Scholarship in Physiology at McGill.

The Lieut.-Governor of Quebec, himself a graduate in medicine of 1860, sat at the Dean's right hand.

The toasts customarily given on such occasions were duly honoured. Immediately after the response to the toast of the Sister Professions, the Dean said he had a most gratifying announcement to make. He read to the company a letter which he had just received from one whose name he could not divulge. The writer offered \$50,000, a gift to the Medical Faculty, as a nucleus for an endowment fund, if by the first of August next an equal amount were subscribed by others.

A tremendous burst of cheering followed this wholly unexpected announcement.

During the course of the evening congratulatory telegrams were received from various parts of the globe. The new College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Chicago, sent greeting, "the infant to the matron." The announcement that the Professors and students of Trinity College, Toronto, had sent by telegraph their congratulations, was received with the most enthusiastic applause.

The Secretary was instructed to transmit by telegraph to Dr. Roderick Macdonald, of Cornwall, the oldest McGill graduate alive, expressions of regret at his absence, and on behalf of the assembled company to wish him all happiness and prosperity.

A graduate, with commendable affection for his College, sent a cablegram from Edinburgh. One also arrived from California.

At a late hour the gathering broke up, the banquet having been a thorough success, and the occasion one to be remembered by all who were present.